

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

ZYMOGEN ACTIVATION SYSTEM

ABSTRACT

5        We describe the DNA sequences encoding an expression vector system that will permit, through limited proteolysis, the activation of expressed zymogen precursor of (S1) serine proteases in a highly controlled and reproducible fashion. The processed expressed protein, once activated, is rendered in a form amenable to measuring the catalytic activity. This catalytic activity of the activated form, is often a more accurate representation of the 10 mature S1 protease gene product relative to the unprocessed zymogen precursor. Thus, this series of zymogen activation constructs represents a significant system for the analysis and characterization of serine protease gene products.